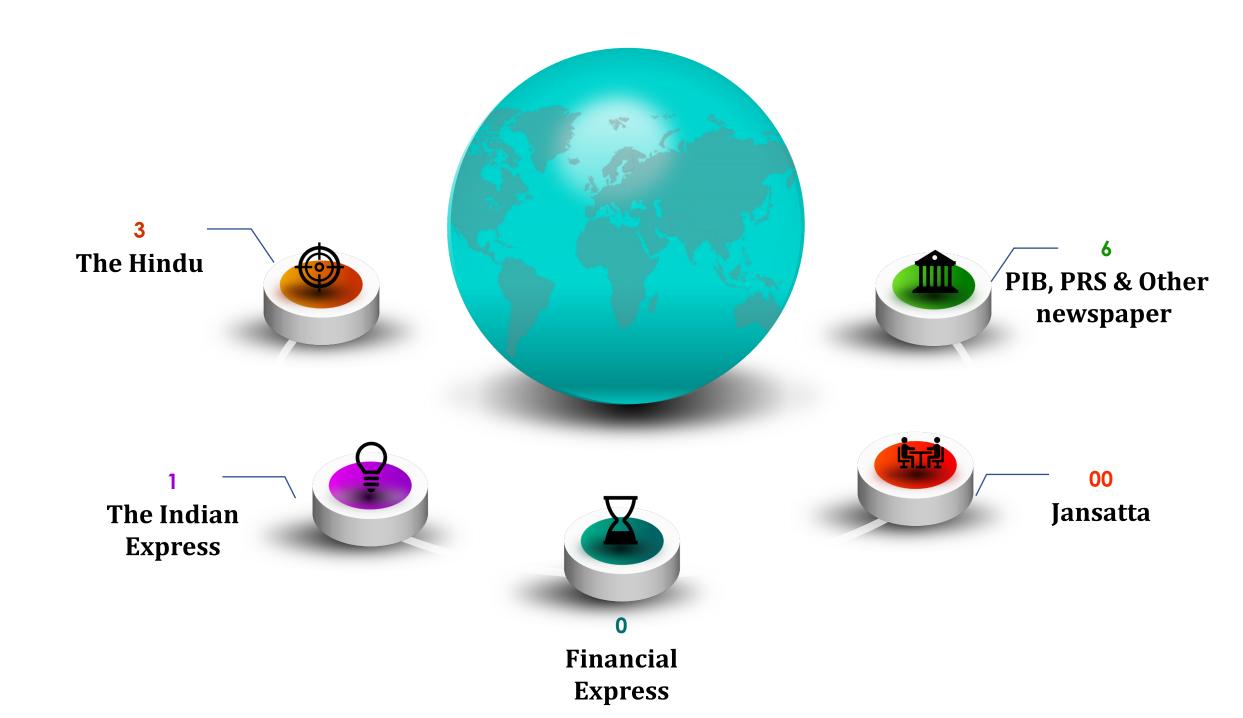
Daily Current Affairs







THE **EXPRESS**





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CPI(M) calls for protests

amid fresh

violence



The grave threat to political stability The Shiv Sena case in Maharashtra raises

constitutional questions



Uncertainty continues over funds for West Bengal

BJP picks Manik Saha again in Tripura; swearing-in tomorrow

He meets the Governor to stake his claim to form a new government after being elected leader of the BJP Legislature Party unanimously; party puts to rest speculation that Pratima Bhowmik would be chosen to lead the government in the State

ripura Governor Governor Satyadeo Monday invited BJP Jeader and Chief Minister Manik Saha to form a new govern-ment in the State. Dr. Saha-nesday as the 12th Chief Mi-nister of the State since its nister of the State since its formation in 1972. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other top BJP leaders will attend the function.

In the Assembly election, the BJP won 32 of the 60 seats, while its ally, Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT), won one

seat.
Earlier in the day, Mr.
Saha was elected leader of
the BIP Legislature Party.
Union Minister of State for
Social Justice Pratima
Bhowmik, who won the



sembly election, proposed his name, party sources said. She was in contention

for the top post.

A BJP spokesperson told presspersons that Dr. Saha's selection was

day. Assam Chief Minister selection of Dr. Saha, who Himanta Biswa Sarma atseat by 1,257 votes. He was made Chief Minister on made Chief Minister on May 15, 2022 after Biplab Kumar Deb stepped down in a surprise move. Party sources said the decision to reappoint Dr. Saha was taken at a meet-ing in New Delhi on Sun-

Party sources said Mr.
Sarma met Union Home
Minister Amit Shah over binet and its leader

IN BRIDE



Dalit student's death: IIT-B rules

a nationwide protest against the BJP over alleged post-pour voience against its cadres in Tripura. The party accused the BJP of "mounting an orgy of vio-lence" even as fresh attacks were reported in the State on Monday. A police officer said 16 people were injured and properties were set on fire.

in an interim report, a Page 10



Conrad Sangma, Neiphiu Rio to take charge in Meghalaya, Nagaland today

Rahul Karmakar

The United Democratic Party (UDP), part of every alliance government in Meghalaya since 2010 ex-cept for a five-year phase from 2013, has been allot-ted two berths in the Cabi-net of the mew five-party government. National Peogovernment. National Peo-ple's Parry (NPP) leader Conrad K. Sangma will as-sume charge as the Chief The national control of The sale of the Chief The sale of the Chief The Sale of the Chief The Sale of the NPP has 26 MLAs, followed by the IIDP with 11 and the

the UDP with 11, and the



phiu Rio will take over as the Chief Minister on

Tuesday. The State is likely liance," he said to have an Opposition-less government with almost all parties extending unconditional support to the alliance of the NDPP and consistences support to the consistence of the BBP. The outgoing government had no Opposition after the Naga Peed the NBP alliance in 2021. In Meghalaya, after the MBP alliance in 2021. In Meghalaya Democratic Alliance call ourselves the Meghalaya Democratic Alliance the Same We also decided that the Chief Minister will be the chartman of the al-

"Out of the 12 Cabinet berths we can have (in the 60-member House], eight will be for the NPP, two for will be for the NPP, two for the UDP and one each for the UBP and the HSPDP. The HSPDP and the HSPDP. Detribs have been distri-buted equitably between the State's two major re-tered to the HSPDP and the Beform the Khasi-Jaintia Be from the Khasi-Jaintia Hills and four, including the CM, will be from the Mr. Sangma said the NPP leadership had pro-posed a name for the

CBI questions former Bihar CM Rabri Devi in land-for-iob scam

The Hindu Bureau

A team of officials from the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday questioned for nearly four questioned for nearly four Minister Rabri Devi, wife of Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) chief Lalu Prasad, in conscion with the land-formation of the CBI later clarified that no search or raid was conducted. After it had is used notice to Ms. Devivo to meet her at her official residence here on Monday. A team of officials from the

residence here on Monday. The inquiry is open and may lead to "further inves-tigation", CBI officials said. Following her questioning,



"Every month or two, these investigating agen-cles keep coming to our re-sidence, but we are not bothered as we have not done anything wrong," her

son and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister, Tejashwi Yadav, told presspersons. The questioning comes a day after leaders of eight parties, including the RID, wrote to Prime Minister wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi against the alleged misuse of investiga-

tion agencies against party The CBI had already filed the chargesheet in the

case, and a special court has summoned Ms. Devi. Mr. Prasad, and their elde daughter Misa Bharti, MP, for March 15. The first ineral people.

» PAGE 10 CONGRESS SLAMS CENTRE > PAGE 11

'PM must look into Oppn. concerns | Man arrested in Bihar for sharing fake videos on misuse of Central agencies'

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar on Monday unged Prime Mi-nister Narendra Modi to take seriously the concerns expressed by Opposition leaders ower the alleged months of the Constant of the Constant of the Constant of the On Sunday, title leaders from eight political parties

from eight political parties had written to Mr. Modi criticising the arrest o former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia in the excise policy case, while alleging that the "misuse" of Central agencies im-plied that the country had "transitioned from being a democracy to an autocra-

"I was the first to sign the letter to PM Modi. We want

our concerns seriously," the NCP chief told reporters in

Thesire for change"

Mr. Pawar, whose part and
the Uddhau Balasaheb
Thackeray (UBT)-led Shiv
Sena faction in the Maha VIsena faction in the Maha VIsena faction in the Maha VIalso remarked that he
sensed "a desire for political change" among the peosensed "a desire for political change "a desire for political change

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Shinde's Shiv Sena and the Bharatria Janata Party. Opposition leaders who were signatories to the let-ter included Mr. Pawar's MVA ally Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray, drashekhar Rao, Triamool Congress leader Mamata

Banerjee, National Conference (NG chief Faronq Ab-dullah, Deshi Chief Meinster Paramatan Chief Meinster Chief Minister Bhagwah Chief Minister Bhagwah (MI) leader Tejashwi Ya (KI) Chief Akhiliesh Yadav. The leaders have alleged against Opposition leaders or their arrests in some case concluded with elec-teristic control of the conference of the placet of the conference of the conference

with the Kardes Petri Asgress Candidate Ravindra
Dangekar pulled off a stunting win, the NCP clief said
and Billianting win, the NCP clief said
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as officials meet migrant workers in Tamil Nadu investigating the videos and lodged an FIR in the was arrested for spreading fake videos," Additional Director General of Police (Headquarters) J.S. Ganggot and the police of the polic

Arvind Kejtiwal. Punjab Mann, Rashtriya Bantal Mannal M rector General of Police C. Sylendra Babu had said in a message that videos which had gone viral on social media were "fake and mischievous".



Ravi at the Raj Bhavan in Chennai and requested him for an investigation in-to the claims of attacks on migrant workers and send a report to the Centre. "Those responsible for the action, if they had had pened, or those spreading

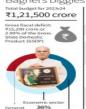
Bihar government to Tamil Nadu led by State Rural De-

industrial units in Colmba-tore on Monday after going to Tiruppur a day earlier. Mr. Balamurugan said the team interacted with workers and took up their inputs with the district ad-ministrations. Tamil Nadu Minister for Labour Welfare and Skill Development C.V. Ganesan said in Thruchi on Monday that the State government has given dir tions to the district and city administrations of Colimbia the rumours should be put behind bars," he told reporters.

A four-member team of senior officials sent by the conduct outreach and

Unemployed youth benefit from Baghel's pre-election budget

Baghel's biggies



chayat and Rural Develop-ment, and Agriculture de-partments cornering over £20,000 crore between them, several urban infras-

them, several urban infras-tructure projects - includ-ing a light metro service connecting Nava Raipur and Durg - have also been announced.

The honocarium for an-guard workers, home guard personnel and oth-ers such as gram patels and

Shubhomoy Sikdar

23%

In its pre-election budget, the Bhupesh Baghel go-vernment in Chhattigarh di-that it would provide C2,500 monthly allowance to educated unemployed youth in the State. 22,500 crove deficit Budget in the Assembly – in which the maximum share, i.e. C19,489 crore, has been provisioned for the School

provisionsed for the School Education Department – Mr. Baghel also announced new 101 Swami Atmanand English Medium Schools. While the focus on rural areas is apparent with Pan-

guard personnel and oth-ers such as gram patels and cools under the mid-day meal scheme and sanita-ment schools has been in-creased. With elections a few months away, the go-vernment hasn't intro-duced any new tax propo-sal for 2025-24.

2022 winter air in NCR 'cleanest' in five years but still 'toxic', says ČSE report

There was heavy and extended rainfall in the early phases of the season that prevented smog episodes, says report; however, Delhi continues to remain the most polluted city in NCR

he winter of 2022 was Delhi's "clean-est" in the last five years, though its air re-mains "toxic". The main determinants for the improved air quality were fa vourable meteorological conditions as well as a reduction in pollution from farm fires, Delhi-based think tank, the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), said in a report or The city-wide winter av

The city-wide winter as-erage for Delhi stood at 160 ag/m² in the winter that spans from October to Ja-nuary. This was the lowest since wide scale monitor-the number refers to PM (particulate matter) 2.5 le-vel, computed by averag-ing monitoring data from 36 CAAQMS (Continuous toring Stations). PM 2.5 Amotent Air Quanty soons-toring Stations). PM 2.5 particles are linked to res-piratory illnesses and res-ponsible for reducing the quality of life.

quality of life.

"This improvement is a combined effect of meteorology and emergency action based on pollution forecasting. There was heavy and extended rainfall in the early phases of the season that prevented smog



CSE's numbers

60 μg/m³. The

episodes from building up and also lowered the sea-sonal average. Despite the decline, Delhi continues to among the cities and towns of NCR. This downward trend will have to be sus-tained with much stronger action on whicles, industry, waste burning, con-struction, solid fuel and bio mass burning to meet the clean air standard," the organisation said in a press

the clean air standard," the organisation said in a press statement.

There was also a decline in peak pollution. This winter, the most polluted day saw the air quality in-

in instances of 'severe pol-lution'. There were only 10 days when air quality was 'severe' or 'severe-' – the highest levels of pollution. In communication, there were dex soar to 401 µg/m² on November 3 - a five year low. Three of the last five years saw the peak cross 500, with the most being 546 in 2019. To be sure, a value exceeding 400 is still classified as an episode of severe* pollution. India's the structure of the severe pollution. In comparison, there were 24 such days in 2021, 23 in 2020, 25 in 2019, and 33 in This winter not only saw

This winter not only saw
a lowering in the quantity
and intensity of farm stubble fires but also favourations but also favourations that were less
conductive for the transport of the smoke. Total
annoke that fell upon Delhi
in form of PM 2.5 has been
considerably lesser. ity standards prescribes that the 24-hour PM 2.5 concentration not breach The CSE's numbers, sourced from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), suggest that a fac-tor behind reduced pollu-tion last winter was a drop

Punjab CM, LoP clash over 'misuse' of probe agencies

The Hindu Bureau

A heated exchange of words was witnessed between Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and Congress MLA Partap Singh Bajwa during the ongoing budget session of the Punjab Assembly on Monday over the "misuse" of

westigation agencies. Speaking during the disaddress, Mr. Bajwa said that the government could not be selective and vindictive only against the Oppo sition leaders on allega-tions of corruption. He recalled that an Aam Aad-

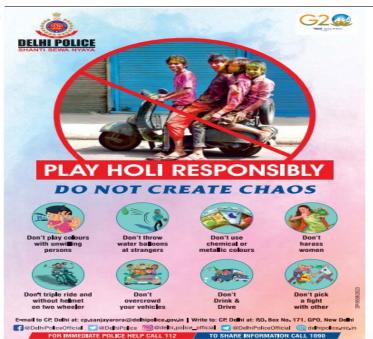
on Opposition leaders ev-ery other day. He said that the BJP flag should be put on central investigating of-fices. I want to tell you fices. I want to tell you clibagwant Mann) to let us dishagwant Mann) to let us don't push us to ask you to put the AAP flag on the Vigilance Bureau office (Punjab)," said Mr. Bajwa. Mr. Mann said that no person involved in looting public money would be spared by the State government. His-



what he termed as shield-ing the corrupt, he said that his government had adopted a zero tolerance policy against corruption The Chief Minister re The 'Chief Minister re-marked that it was a sorry state of affairs that Con-gress leaders were trying to patronise those who had looted the wealth of the State by misusing the pow-er given to them by the people.

'Cong. leaders tainted' Mr. Mann said that most of the Congress leaders sit-ting on Opposition bench-es in the State were taint-ed, and they would have to pay for their sins very soon as action against them was inevitable...

Mr. Mann reminded Mr. Mr. Mann reminded Mr. Bajwa that a former Chief Minister [from the Congress] had submitted a list of the congress of the submitted a list of the congress high command. However, instead of acting against these corrupt leaders, the high command remained silent to





Baghel's biggies

Total budget for 2023-24

₹1,21,500 crore

Gross fiscal deficit: ₹15,200 crore or 2.99% of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)

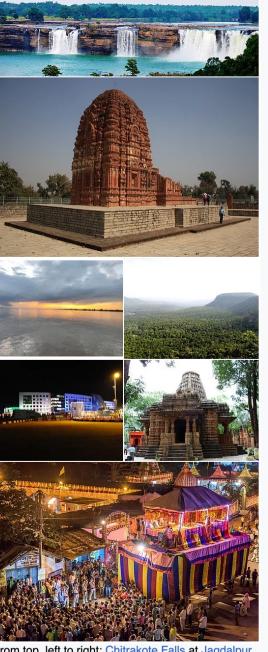




Highlights

- ■₹250 crore to provide to ₹2,500 monthly allowance to educated unemployed youth in the State
- 101 new Swami Atmanand English Medium Schools
- Four new medical colleges
- Honorarium (monthly) of anganwadi workers and sahayikas (assistants) increased from ₹6,500 to ₹10,000 and from ₹3,250 to ₹5,000, respectively
- Pensions for destitute, elderly, disabled, widows and abandoned women under Social Security Pension Scheme increased from ₹350 to ₹500 per month
- ■₹1,000 crore for urban infrastructure development, light metro service from Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar to Durg proposed
- ₹10 crore for organising Mata Kaushlaya Mahotsav, ₹12 crore for organising International Ramayana Festival.

Country	India	
Region	Central India	
Formation	1 November 2000 [†]	
Capital(s)	Raipur	
Largest cities	Raipur	
Districts	List of districts of Chhattisgarh	
Government		
· Body	Government of Chhattisgarh	
Governor	Biswabhusan Harichandan	
 Chief Minister 	Bhupesh Baghel (INC)	
 Legislature 	Unicameral (90 seats)	
 Parliamentary constituencies 	Rajya Sabha (5 seats)Lok Sabha (11 seats)	
· High Court	Chhattisgarh High Court, Bilaspur	
Area ^[3]		
· Total	135,192 km ² (52,198 sq mi)	
∙ Rank	9th	
Population (2020) ^[4]		
· Total	29,436,231	
· Rank	17th	
 Density 	220/km ² (560/sq mi)	
Languages		
 Official 	Hindi	
Additional official	Chhattisgarhi ^[5]	
Time zone	UTC+05:30 (IST)	
ISO 3166 code	IN-CT	
HDI	▲ 0.613 (medium)	
HDI rank	31st (2017)	
Literacy	77.3% (2017) ^[6]	



From top, left to right: Chitrakote Falls at Jagdalpur, Sirpur Group of Monuments, Mahanadi River, Chaiturgarh hills, Naya Raipur, Bhoramdeo Temple, Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary, Bastar Dussehra and Satrenga Reservoir

Emblem of Chhattisgarh



Song Language

Arpa Pairi Ke Dhar Chhattisgarhi, Bastariya,

Sargujiha

Hill myna

Flower

Bird



French Marigold

Fruit

Mammal

Tendu

Wild water buffalo

Tree

log u

Shorea robusta

Vegetable

able Lal Bhaji

Food Angakar Roti

Fossil Coal

Mineral Iron Ore

River Mahanadi, Indravati, Hasdev,

Shivnath

Sport Kabaddi

Sweet Khurmi

INBRIDE



'Many adenovirus infection victims had co-morbidities'

Amid reports of death of children caused by Amid reports of death of children caused by adenovirus infection, West Bengal Chief Minister adenovirus infection, and the state of the minister children had died of the infection, of which 13 had co-morbidities. The Chief Ministers aid that six children had died of adenovirus alone. Speaking in the State Assembly Ms. Bamerjee said have changed their churacter and suggested that adults start wearing masks to protect children. In a statement on Sunday, the Trinamool government said that sufficient infrastructure had been created across the State in recent years to deal with the situation.

Three children die during illegal mining in West Bengal

Three children were crushed to death on Monday at Silguri in West Bengal while they were to the best Bengal while they were to the best of a river. The incident happened on the bank of the Balason river in Tripalijot in the gone to mine sand on the riverthed in the right and the webside overturned, resulting in the death of these children. One of the children, who was injured in the accident and has been admitted to hospital, said that they were promised ₹350 each to fill the truck before the Holi festivities. The children had gone to the river bed in the night and the bodies were located by

CBI court asks ED to take Anubrata to Delhi by flight

A special CBI court in Asansol on Monday A special CBI court in Assarsol on Monday directed the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to directed the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to the Court of the

India reducing dependence in healthcare, says Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that India is consistently trying to ensure minimal dependence on foreign countries in healthcare. Addressing a post-Budget webianr on health and medical research, he said that healthcare should be viewed in the paradigm of pre- and post-COVID era. "The cashless health insurance scheme [Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana] has led to the healthcare savings of nearly ₹80,000 crore for patients. Additionally, savings of \$20,000 crore have been achieved through buying of generic medicines by patients from the lan Aushadhi Kendras," the Prime Minister

Coast Guard says Iranian boat with drugs seized

The Hindu Bureau

In a joint operation, the In-dian Coast Guard, based on an intelligence input by the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Gujarat, seized an Iranian boat with five crew members allegedly carry-ing 61 kg of heroin, estimat-ed at 4125 croze, on Mon-ed at 4125 croze, on Mon-

day night. The Coast Guard said it The Coast Guard said it deployed its two Fast Pa-trol Class of ships, ICGS Meera Behn and ICGS Ab-heek, for patrolling in the Arabian Sea. "During dark Arabian Sea. "During dark hours, a boat was observed moving suspiciously in In-dian waters approx. 340 kms (190 miles) off Okhab dy ICG Ships, the boat started evasive manoeuvr-ing. The boat was then chased and forced to stop Stard.

After interception, the boat was found to be from Iran, carrying five Iranian personnel undertook an

personnel undertook an extensive search and found extensive search and found approximately 61 kg of nar-cotics worth ₹425 crore. The boat along with the crew has been apprehend-ed and is being brought to Okha for further investiga-tion. In the last 18 months, narcotics worth ₹2,355 crore have been seized from vessels off the Gujarat

Centre gives nod for States to authenticate **Aadhaar of prisoners**

The exercise will be undertaken for inmates on a voluntary basis to ease extension of benefits such as health schemes, vocational training: MHA

The Union Home Ministry of Home on Monday noti-fied that prison authorities

across States are allowed to conduct authentication of prison inmates through Aadhaar for extending benefits such as meeting with

nefits such as meeting with nefits such as meeting with re-was voluntary. Prison is a State subjectation said the Ministry having been auth-orised by the Union go-wernment to neofity, under Authentication for Good Governance (Social Wel-peller), and the hadden of the control of the prison of the control of the second o Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, "per-formance of Aadhaar authentication of prison in-mates on a voluntary basis using Yes/No authentication facility, inter-alia, for delivery of various bene-fits/facilities to which they are entitled, such as, cor rectional reform measures, health, skilling, vocational training, interview with re-



latives, legal aid, etc.", he-reby notifies that the Pri-sons Department of the States and Union Territo-ries are allowed to perform Aadhaar authentication of prison immates

authorities of the States shall adhere to the guide-lines with respect to the use of Aadhaar authentica-tion as laid down by the Central government.

Earlier in November 2022, the Ministry wrote to prison authorities to or-ganise special camps to make Aadhaar available for all prisoners. The Unique Identifica-

tion Authority of India (UI-DAI) has agreed to accept the Prisoner Induction Document (PID) as a valid document for enrolment or update of Aadhaar. By enrolling prisoners to Aad-haar, various aspects of date to day urison adminisday-to-day prison adminis-tration such as production before court, return to pri son, transport, health facil-ities, shifting to hospital views, free legal aid, pa-role, temporary release mechanisms, education/ vocational training, release from prisons etc. could be

ed, the Ministry had

'Democracy being attacked in name of freedom of expression'

The Hindu Bureau

Attempts are being made to 'attack' democracy in the name of freedom of ex-pression, Law Minister Ki-ren Rijiju said on Monday, ren Rijiju said on Monday, delivering a keynote ad-dress at the 23rd Common-wealth Law Conference in Goa

loa. The Minister said that one of the success stories of democracy was a strong constitutional provision that called for clear separa-tion of powers among the judiciary, executive and the legislature and "if any wing tries to encroach upon the territory of another, it must be fiercely

resisted".
Though the Law Minister did not name anyone, his comments on democracy are being seen as a rebuttal to Congress leader Rahul Gamdhi's speech to a group of students in Cambridge University last week in which Mr. Gandhi said "the democratic architec-ture in India is under pres-

Mr. Rijiju shared a six-minute video clip of his ad-dress in which he said the that follows the due pro esses of law must be respected at all cost".

"This cannot be chal-



tempts are being made to attack democracy itself," Mr. Rijiju said in his inaug-ural address.

1975 Emergency

1975 Emergency
"I can assure this august
house that in India, democracy cannot be overthrown because Indians.
There was one attempt in
1975 when Emergency was
imposed but the people of
India resisted fiercely. And
rule of law prevailed again
and it will prevail forever;
The Law Minister also
The Law Minister also

The Law Minister also said that the Narendra Mo-di government had so far repealed 1,486 obsolete and redundant laws and 65 more such laws would be repealed in the second part of the Budget Session.

Talking about 4.98 crore pending cases in India, Mr Rijiju said the pendency would be handled using

Railways ties up with ISRO for train tracking

The Hindu Bureau

The Indian Railways is har-The Indian Railways is har-nessing the power of data analytics for integrated menced a project which will now enable real time tracking of train move-ments with the assistance of satellite imagery under the Real Time Train Infor-sect. System (RTIS) pro-ject.

mation System (RTIS) pro-ject.

D.K. Singh, Managing Director, Centre for Rail-way Information Systems (CRIS), said that the CRIS has collaborated with the Indian Space Research Or-ganisation (ISRO) for live tracking to help Railways

racking to neep kallways run trains efficiently. Mr. Singh, and the Un-ion Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw, spoke on the sidelines of a conference on 'Reimagining In-dian Railways: Harnessing the Power of Data Analyt ics for Integrated Tran

sportation' here on March

Mr. Singh said that ISRO Mr. Singh said that ISRO has developed its own re-gional navigation satellite system called Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) and Bhuvan, a web-based utility which al-lows users to explore a set of map-based content be-

of mag-based content being deployed for tracking.
"We have taken banding deployed for tracking."
"We have taken banding taken bandgrated our systems with
NavIC and Bhuvan. Every
locomotive is fitted with a
commanicates the train's
real position to the satellite
and feedback is received,
every three seconds," Mr.
Singh added.
Trains is also useful during
trains is also useful during

trains is also useful during accidents, floods and land-slips, when there is a need to pin down the train's ex-act location for rendering help. "Until now, 4,000 lo-comotives have been in-



A total of 4,000 locome

stalled with the technolostated with the technology, and new locomotives that are being manufactured come pre-installed with the tracking devices," Mr. Singh said.

Vaishnaw empha-Mr. Vaistnaw empha-sised the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quan-tum tech for the Indian Railways. Mr. Vaishnaw said that there was a pilot project underway between Sanchar Bhavan, which

Electronics, Information and Technology, and Rail Bhavan, which houses the Ministry of Railways, to use quantum key encryption in order to exchange infor-

mation in a way that is "non-hackable". The Railways is tapping into data analytics to imexpepassengers to receive con-firmed tickets. "Nearly 2.3 crore pas-sengers travel on the In-

sengers travel on the In-dian Railways every day, of which 30 lakh passengers travel on reserved tickets, while about two crore pas-sengers travel via the unre-served ticketing system," Mr. Singh said. The CRIS has now deve-

loped a hand-held device that can help

served passengers.

Mr. Singh said that the
CRIS has identified 90 cases where AI can be used for
improving Railways services, including seat allocation, prediction analysis on when freight trains will be emptied, and balancing stocks of medicines across the Railways health infras-

"We crunch data and provide it to the Zonal Railways for further problem solving," Mr. Singh said.

Joshimath to be on disaster risk reduction meet agenda

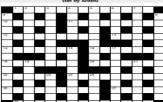
Vijaita Singh NEW DELHI

The land subsidence in Joshimath in Uttarakhane Joshimath in Uttarakhand that displaced many peo-ple, and the role of the Na-tional Disaster Response Force (NDRF) after the Tur-armong the topics that will be discussed at the third session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NFDRR) confe-

cal resilience in a changing climate", will be inaugurat-ed by Prime Minister Na-rendra Modi on March 10. Home Minister Amit Shah will chair a session

with State government M

TH GROSSWORD+13806 TO solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site, at turns of the first puzzle on the first pu



- 1. Part of the earth then breaks into a very round shape
- 11 Unclutter ground, it's hostile (9)

- Lifting article over small distance (5)
 Some lad mad about her (7)
 By self admission, a post reformation kind of painting
- 18 Mission complete finally Arden's caught a fish (7)
 20 Getting angry in other words with coolies in the Orient, extremely simple! (7)
- 22 Soddier carrying bag of bones (5)
 24 Is salt bad? Starts using daily, ends with spring fever (9)
 26 European denial wearing off (9)
 27 Keen to see half put underground (5)
- Media is into disruption, supporting one Frenchman Monet, perhaps (13)
- Down

 2 About stopping a virus, millions face ridicule (7) Egg on salt? (5)
- Egg on salt? (5)
 Dependable, smart what reporters are looking for (5,4)
 Husband of father's sister is Harry (5)
 Mentions about Oriental jackets (7)
 Cut down on salt, now you're talking mayonnaisel (5,8)
 Say to father "use the latests" (5,2,3)
- 15 Commitments to produce alloys, show hidden link (9)

-

Commitments to produce alloys, show hidden link One of the horse rides left in position, perhaps (9) Spot young animal hoisting material (7) Corresponds to one, at last a quest to set out (7) Ruler in the same era (5) 25 Part of Egypt is in a turmoil (5)

SUDOKU





FAITH

The importance of Vedas

Scriptures say that Vedas are the very breathing air of God. Vedas preach from beginning to end about the general well being of the society (Lokas Samasuhas sukhino bhawanthu). It has been in practice from the days of yore, the recitation of Vedas. Hearing of Vedas purifies us. By help ing the conduct of the recitation of Vedas, people derive

blessings.

Not all seeds sown in the earth would sprout. The power of Vedas should be in the earth for the seeds to come up. We have been disturbing the earth in various ways and we make it even impure. People who develop angry may out of a fit of rage kick the ground which is considered a

We have to tender excuse to the Mother earth for all these. It is said if we incur the wrath of the Mother earth she may wreak havoc by creating fissures, earthquakes and landslides.

and landslides.

Not all fire could be considered as a holy one. The home is reckoned as a true Agni and it is believed that on top of the flames God dwells in. Veclas also any the wind should be flames God should not roast us.

The celestals in charge of day and night, lumar fortagents, the month, the seasons of the year (all rithus) and the control of the control of the control of the period of the peri

our mind, we commit several mistakes. They can be cleansed by helping for the cause of the spread of Vedas, said Brahmashree Kannan Ghanapatigal in a discourse.

Railways ties up with ISRO for train tracking

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Indian Railways is harnessing the power of data analytics for integrated transportation. It has commenced a project which will now enable real time tracking of train movements with the assistance of satellite imagery under the Real Time Train Information System (RTIS) project.

D.K. Singh, Managing Director, Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), said that the CRIS has collaborated with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for live tracking to help Railways run trains efficiently.

Mr. Singh, and the Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw, spoke on the sidelines of a conference on 'Reimagining Indian Railways: Harnessing the Power of Data Analytics for Integrated Tran-

sportation' here on March

Mr. Singh said that ISRO has developed its own regional navigation satellite system called Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) and Bhuvan, a web-based utility which allows users to explore a set of map-based content being deployed for tracking.

"We have taken bandwidth from ISRO and integrated our systems with NavIC and Bhuvan. Every locomotive is fitted with a device and a SIM, which communicates the train's real position to the satellite and feedback is received. The movement is updated every three seconds," Mr. Singh added.

Real-time tracking of trains is also useful during accidents, floods and landslips, when there is a need to pin down the train's exact location for rendering help. "Until now, 4,000 locomotives have been in-



A total of 4,000 locomotives have been fitted with the technology, and new locomotives come with tracking devices. GETTY IMAGES

stalled with the technology, and new locomotives that are being manufactured come pre-installed with the tracking devices," Mr. Singh said.

Mr. Vaishnaw emphasised the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum tech for the Indian Railways. Mr. Vaishnaw said that there was a pilot project underway between Sanchar Bhavan, which

houses the Ministry of Electronics, Information and Technology, and Rail Bhavan, which houses the Ministry of Railways, to use quantum key encryption in order to exchange information in a way that is "non-hackable".

The Railways is tapping into data analytics to improve passenger experience, help chart out empty seats, and enable more

passengers to receive confirmed tickets.

"Nearly 2.3 crore passengers travel on the Indian Railways every day, of which 30 lakh passengers travel on reserved tickets, while about two crore passengers travel via the unreserved ticketing system," Mr. Singh said.

The CRIS has now developed a hand-held device that can help reduce queues by providing tickets on platforms to unreserved passengers.

Mr. Singh said that the CRIS has identified 90 cases where AI can be used for improving Railways services, including seat allocation, prediction analysis on when freight trains will be emptied, and balancing stocks of medicines across the Railways health infrastructure.

"We crunch data and provide it to the Zonal Railways for further problem solving," Mr. Singh said.

Geospatial Portal (Bhuvan):

- It is a type of web portal used to find and access geographic information (geospatial information) and associated geographic services (display, editing, analysis, etc.) via the Internet.
- भू-स्थानिक पोर्टल (भुवन):
- यह एक प्रकार का वेब पोर्टल है जिसका उपयोग इंटरनेट के माध्यम से भौगोलिक जानकारी (भू-स्थानिक जानकारी) और संबद्ध भौगोलिक सेवाओं (प्रदर्शन, संपादन, विश्लेषण आदि) को खोजने और उन तक पहुंचने के लिए किया जाता है।

- Navigation in Indian Constellation (NavIC)
- About:
 - It is an Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), developed by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
 - IRNSS consists of eight satellites, three satellites in geostationary orbit and five satellites in geosynchronous orbit.
- भारतीय तारामंडल में नेविगेशन (NavIC)
- के बारे में:
- यह एक भारतीय क्षेत्रीय नेविगेशन सैटेलाइट सिस्टम (IRNSS) है, जिसे भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (ISRO) द्वारा विकसित किया गया है।
- आईआरएनएसएस में आठ उपग्रह, भू-स्थिर कक्षा में तीन उपग्रह और भू-समकालिक कक्षा में पांच उपग्रह शामिल हैं।

- It works just like the established and popular **U.S. Global Positioning System (GPS)** but within a 1,500-km radius over the sub-continent.
- It has been certified by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), a global body for coordinating mobile telephony standards
- यह स्थापित और लोकप्रिय यूएस ग्लोबल पोजिशनिंग सिस्टम (जीपीएस) की तरह ही काम करता है, लेकिन उपमहाद्वीप में 1,500 किलोमीटर के दायरे में।
- इसे मोबाइल टेलीफोनी मानकों के समन्वय के लिए एक वैश्विक निकाय, तीसरी पीढ़ी की साझेदारी परियोजना (3GPP) द्वारा प्रमाणित किया गया है।

· Objective:

The main objective is to provide reliable position, navigation and timing services over India and its neighbourhood.

Potential Uses:

- Terrestrial, aerial and marine navigation;
- · Disaster management;
- Vehicle tracking and fleet management (especially for mining and transportation sector);
- · Integration with mobile phones;
- Precise timing (as for ATMs and power grids);
- Mapping and geodetic data capture.
- उद्देश्य:
- म्ख्य उद्देश्य भारत और इसके पड़ोस में विश्वसनीय स्थिति, नेविगेशन और समय सेवाएं प्रदान करना है।
- संभावित उपयोगः
- स्थलीय, हवाई और समुद्री नेविगेशन;
- आपदा प्रबंधन;
- वाहन ट्रैकिंग और बेड़ा प्रबंधन (विशेष रूप से खनन और परिवहन क्षेत्र के लिए);
- मोबाइल फोन के साथ एकीकरण;
- सटीक समय (एटीएम और पावर ग्रिड के लिए);
- मैपिंग और जियोडेटिक डेटा कैप्चर।

- Other Global Navigational Systems:
 - BeiDou/BDS (China)
 - Galileo (Europe)
 - GLONASS (Russia)
 - Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZSS) (Japan)
- अन्य वैश्विक नेविगेशनल सिस्टम:
- बेईदो 3/बीडी एस (चीन)
- गैलीलियो (यूरोप)
- ग्लोनास (रूस)
- क्वैसी-जेनिथ सैटेलाइट सिस्टम (QZSS) (जापान)

Mirabai Chanu wins BBC Indian Sportswoman-of-the-Year award



twice in a row after bagging it in 2021 as well. Last year, she also won

OUTSTANDING

Shakib's all-round show powers Bangladesh to consolation win



anisoto se masan occame the trist banguares nower to take 300 wickets as the team back England by 50 runs on Monday to avoid a three-match sweep in the ODI series.

The scores: Banguadesh 246 in 50 overs (Shakib Al Hasan 75, Mushfiqur Rahim 70) bt England 196 in 43.1 overs (Shakib 4/35).

WITHDRAWAL

Unable to gain US entry, Djokovic pulls out of Indian Wells



World No. 1 Novaik Djolkovic has withdrawn from next week's ATP/ Indian Wells Masters event. Djokovic is unable to enter the Unibed States because he is unvaccinated against COVID-19. The event is followed by the prestigious tournament in Miami which Djokovic is now expected to miss unless US authorities have a change of heart.

TURNED DOWN

Blasters' appeal for a replay of the playoff 'quashed' by AIFF



Kerala Blasters FC's demand for a replay of its Indian Super League playoff match against Bengaluru FC was on Monday "quashed" by the All India Football Federation's (AIFF) disciplinary committee. Blasters had on Friday walked off the pitch and forfeited their



Matthews' blitz blows away RCB

Her unbeaten 38-ball 77 takes MI past the finish line with plenty to spare; + the West Indian also scalps three wickets; Nat Sciver-Brunt shines again

P.K. Aiith Kumar

he crowd kept roaring. So did the bast Indians.
The only team in the Woment's Premier League Woment's Premier League playing in front of a home crowd, Mi gaze its supporters plenty of reasons to the control of the co Bangalore in a marquee clash at the Brabourne Sta-

dium on Monday.

After bowling out RCB for 155, with eight balls remaining, MI romped home with 5.4 overs to spare to post its second win in as many matches, For RCB, it dium on Monday. was the second defeat in as

was the second deteat in as many days. Hayley Matthews (77 not out, 38b, 13x4, 1x6) was Ml's top-scorer. She was al-so her team's highest wicket-taker

wicket-taker.
With her off-spin, she scalped three, including the RCB skipper Smriti Mandhana. This is turning out to be a good tournament for the West Indian, ment for the west indian, who had scored 47 off 31 balls against Gujarat Giants in the opening match.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) on Mon-day announced that the 140th IOC Session will be

held in Mumbai from Oc-

tober 15 to 17. According to

SM (SM)

a press release, an IOC Executive Board meeting will

Sports Bureau

Choosing to bat, RCB struggled against a disciplined MI attack, backed pilled MI attack, backed RCB began promisingly yet again, with Smriti and So-pent. The openers added 39 in Just 4.2 overs, with vine's power raising hopes of the RCB fans, who also large numbers. But within a space of seven balls, RCB said to 43 for four.

Devine was caught in the deep while slog-sweep-ing Saika Ishaque, the left-

arm spinner who an-

ROYAL CHALLENGERS Smriti Mandhana c Wong b Natthews 23 (17b, 5x4), Sophie

Matthews 23 (176, 504), Sophie
Devine c Amanjot b Salka 16 (11b,
2et, 2etj., Disha Kasart b Salka 0
(2b), Ellyse Perry run out 13 (7b,
Let, 2etj., Heather Knight b
Natthews 0 (1b), Richa Ghosh c Medithewa G (2016, Bicha Chesh L Nati Schor River D Matthewa 20 Nati Schor River D Matthewa 20 Nati Schor River B Matthewa 20 National Propies 22 (2102, Ref. Left), National Propies 22 (2102, Ref. Left), Schutts C, Varillon D, Amelia Rerr (2014), 240 (Remulas Sephy b (2014), 240 (Remulas Sephy b (2014), 240 (A court), 125 (1004), 240 (A court), 125 (1004), 241 (Sentral, 2-30 (1004), 243 (Sentral, 2-30 (1004), 244 (Sentral, 2-30 (Sentral, 2-30

prior to the IOC Session, while the opening ceremo-ny is scheduled for Oct. 14.

The decision to hold the 140th Session in India was taken by its members dur-

ing the 139th meeting in Beijing in February. India won the bid to host fter 75

members voted for it and

IOC Session to be held in

Mumbai from Oct. 15 to 17

nounced her arrival with a four wicket-haul against Gujarat Giants in the open-ing match of the tourna-ment. A ball later, the Ben-gal bowler flighted one to bowl Disha Kasat.

It took some fine efforts down the order for RCB to take the score past 150.

But it proved a cakewalk for MI, as Matthews and Nat Sciver-Brunt (55 not out, 29b, 9x4, 1x6) took MI past the finishing line with an unbroken stand of 114 for the second wicket.

Tuesday's match: Delhi Capitals vs. UP Warriorz (7.30 p.m.).

4-0-26-2, Wong 2-0-18-0, Amelia

lbwb Preeti 23 (19b, 4x4), Nat Sciver-Brunt (not out) 55 (28b, 3x4, 1x5); Edvas (lb-4): 4; Total (for one wist, in 14.2 overs): 159. FALL OF WICKET

FALL OF WICKET
1-45 (Yastika, 4.6).
RCB BOWLING
Renuka 3-0-28-0, Presti 4-0-34-1,
Schutt 3-0-32-0, Petry 1.2-0-18-0,
Shrayanka 2-0-32-0, Devine

sion or exclusion of sports

disciplines or international federations, and changes to

its Olympic Charter.

one against it. The IOC Ses-sion, the general meeting of its members, is held at least once a year. The Olympic body uses the oc-casion to decide host cities for upcoming events, inclu-

at the boundary line when India needed 18 off the last nine balls to win the semifinal was one of the best bits of fielding in international cricket, male or female, of

senior cricket writer, passes away

Sports Bureau CHENNAI

S. Dinakar, The Hindu's Senior Deputy Editor (Sports), passed away at In-dore. The veteran cricket writer had just reported the third Test between India and Australia and was dia and Australia and was preparing to leave for Ah-medabad for the fourth and final Test, when he col-lapsed in his hotel room. He is survived by his father. With more than a three-

with more than a three-decade service with The Hindu Group, Dinakar, 57, worked in the general desk before shifting to Sport-

before shifting to Sport-Later be moved to The Hindu's sports department and his despatches apart and Sportstar with the lat-ests being one on the Hol-kar-influence over Indoré's piece is appearing concur-rently with this obstuary. Dinaker reported exten-plece is appearing con-from cricket to tennis and sailing besides local foot-ball and bockey. Eventual-by he specialised in cricket.



S. Dinakar. DIF PHOTO: P. DEVONDRAN

his first love, travelling all over India and the cricket-ing globe, filing reports that had a touch of flair and

that had a touch of flair and insights into technique. He had other interests too: Carnatic music and movies; and he was ever eager to discuss the latest trends in the world of arts. And when in the mood, he kumar or flaiyaraaja num-ber.

her.

He never wanted to hang his reporting boots and after one more stint at chronicling Test cricket, Dinakar passed away as the quintessential newsman.

S. Dinakar, The Hindu's | Remembering the glory days of the Holkars

The Holkars, those magnif-icent bunch of attacking cricketers who dominated Indian cricket in their time, lend Indore cricket-

ing history and context. Between 1941 and 52, marauding Holkars won four Ranji Trophy tit-les and reached the final

Reminiscing about the Holkars, Madhya Pradesh ning all-rounder of off-spinning all-rounder of yesteryear and former Na-tional selector Sanjay Jag-dale said, "The only way they knew to play was to attack."

they knew to plujy was as as Men like C.K. Nayudu, an imposing cricketer, the aggressive Mushtrag engressive Mushtrag the Chandus Faryune with his all-round ability, were all kar team.

In fact, Sanjuy jagdale's father M.M. Jagdale, a fine father M.M. Jagdale, a fine of the Holkars' invincibles. Tused to go with my father to watch Holkars' matches. I was thrilled to matches. I was thrilled to watch Holkars' matches.



see that fearless brand of cricket," he remembered. Jagdale recalled Mush-taq Ali's thrill-s-minute bat smasship. "What hand-eye owned to be seen to be se Jagdale said he spoke to

and formed bonds with a number of Holkar cricke-ters but never summoned the courage to walk up to C.K. Nayudu since he was a

formidable personality. Jagdale said, "C.K. Nayu-du hit sixes with such ease

even when past his prime. He was a gifted cricketer." The genial Jagdale tra-velled back to a match at velled back to a match at Mhow against an Army team on a "very bad mat-ting wicket". "The manner in which Mushtaq Ali batted on that track was sen-

in which Mushtaq An Darted on that track was senbed on that track was senDuring a time when several Kings made it to the indiant team more on closel
to the sented of the sen
The glocy days of the alltador a burnished cricketing lastre.

All-rounder Ellvse Perry as rare as they come

P.K. Ajith Kumar

She can bend it like Beckham. She is known more for swinging it like Ander-son, though. Ellyse Perry is truly spe-

Ellyse Perry is truly spe-cial. How many athletes have been good enough to play the World Cups in two different sports. She is, of course, regard-

different sports?

She is, of course, regarder
She is, of course, regarder
greats in women's cricket,
but ahe is amazingly talented as a footballer as well,
scored for Australia against
Sweden in the 2011 FIFA
Cup in Germany.

She actually bent it like
Cup in Germany.

She actually bent it like
of the box to the top corner
of the net. For Perry that
good now almost seems like
The all happened so long
ago, but I loved playing
annualing opportunity to do
that. Perry, who is one of
the biggest attractions at
her athletican cone of
the blagest attractions at
League, tells. The Hinda.
And it helped me as an
Her athletician cost India dearly at the recent
in South Africa recently.
Her sprint and dive to stop
in South Africa recently.
Her sprint and dive to stop
at the boundary line when



One of a kind: Perry, a tale

Perry, a genuine all-rounder who could walk into a side either as a batter of the country of the country of the unlucky to lose that game to Australia. "It is another example of the incredible competition we have had orricked in the last flow person of the pears," she says. "India played incredibly well, but we hung in there and came our way." Australia went on to win

Australia went on to win the World Cup beating South Africa in the final. She thus took her tally of World Cups to eight.

Focus now on WPL Perry's focus at the mo-ment is on the WPL. She is delighted that she has erage of 75.2.

ioined Royal Challengers

joined Royal Chameager-Bangalore.
"We have assembled a good squad," she says. "We have some great domestic players. RCB has certainly done a good job at the auction."

done a good job at the auction." Perry thinks the WPL is going to be phenomenal. "The scale of the WPL is unrivalled by any other women's competition in the world," she says. "And it will create an amazing depther."

cricket."
The WPL is waiting for some memorable perfor-mances from the woman who has 4921 runs and 283 wickets in international white-ball cricket, not to mention a Test batting av-

Cummins out of final Test, Smith to lead



Agence France-Presse

Steve Smith will captain

Steve Smith will captain storms are many and the fourth Test against India fourth Test against India with Pat Cummins remaining as home with his ailing as home with his ailing and the stand of the said out of the fourth Test in palliative care he has declarated out of the fourth Test bad to remain in Australia with his family. Cricket Australia said in a brief and the said of the said of

third Test by nine wickets The victory was only Australia's second Test win in India since 2004 and se-cured them a place in the ICC World Test Champion-

Despite revelling in be-

done". The fourth and final Test starts in Ahmedabad

the three-match ODI series that follows the Tests. But fast bowler Jhye Rihas been ruled out of the limited-overs games, with Nathan Ellis replacing him in the squad.

6000

AN ENCORE

Mirabai Chanu wins BBC Indian Sportswoman-of-the-Year award



Tokyo Olympic Games silver-medallist weightlifter Mirabai Chanu has bagged the 2022 'BBC Indian Sportswoman-of-the-Year' award after a public vote. The 28-year-old became the first athlete to win the award twice in a row after bagging it in 2021 as well. Last year, she also won Commonwealth Games gold and World Championships silver.



Personal information

Born 8 August 1994 (age 28)

Nongpok Kakching, Imphal East,

Manipur, India

Height 1.50 m (4 ft 11 in)

Weight 49 kg (108 lb)

Sport

Country India

Sport Weightlifting

Event(s) 49 kg

Coached Vijay Sharma, Aaron Horschig^{[1][2]}

by

Medal record		[hide]
Women's weightlifting		
Representing India		
Olympic Games		
S	2020 Tokyo	49 kg
World Championships		
G	2017 Anaheim	48 kg
S	2022 Bogotá	49 kg
Asian Championships		
B	2020 Tashkent	49 kg
Commonwealth Games		
G	2022 Birmingham	49 kg
G	2018 Gold Coast	48 kg
S	2014 Glasgow	48 kg
Commonwealth Championships		
G	2019 Apia	49 kg
G	2017 Gold Coast	48 kg
G	2013 Penang	48 kg
S	2015 Pune	48 kg

♦TheIndian **EXPRESS**

ESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 20 PAGES

AMSHIPORA ENCOUNTER

killing of 3: Life term for Army officer

Labourers were branded as terrorists; sentence to be finalised by top brass

ded life imprisonment for a ain over the killing of three at Amshipora in J&K's sian district in 2020, Army said Monday. The sen-owever, will be finalised

ence, however, will be finalised only after higher Army authori-ies confirm it, they said.

Captain Bhoopendra Singh, alias Major Bashir Khan, was court-martialled after a Court of nequiry and a subsequent sum-any of evidence found that roops under his command ex-ecceded their powers under the

red (20), Abrar Ahmed (25)



FAMILIES: JUSTICE INCOMPLETE, YET TO GET GOVT JOB

and Mohammed Abrar (16), all labourers hailing from Jammu's Rajouri district, were shot and branded as terrorists by troops under the officer's command in res (Special Powers) Shopian district. The J&K Police CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

NAAC RESIGNATION ROW

Court martial in J&K Dubious experts, compromised IT: Review panel red-flags how council grades colleges and univs

Lack of action on report was raised by Bhushan Patwardhan before resignation

THE "POSSIBILITY" of a "compro-THE POSSIBILITY of a compro-mised. IT system; "super ad-mins" with full access to the in-ternal system; "arbitrary" allocation of experts raising questions of "conflict of interest" with 70 per cent from the avail-able pool unutilised.

BUSINESS AS USUAL

BYUNNY

Some depends

Indian carriers soar.

market share higher

than pre-Covid level

OVERSEAS AIR TRAVEL

WITH INTERNATIONAL air travel to and from India on a path of swift recovery, Indian carriers

are cashing in, expansing their collective market share – by passengers – to a seven-year bigh, shows an analysis of data for the December quarter (October-December 20022), released by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

ingulisted in a report subemitted by a panel that reviewed the bading to his resignation from a basel that reviewed the days and the substitution of the substitution

The key factors in play

BEHIND THE surge in market share by Indian

market share by Indian airlines: higher capaci-ties deployed on interna-tional routes by domestic carriers; slower capacity deployment by some for-eign carriers; reduction in flights by some US car-riers to avoid Bussian air-space; and Covid curbs in China and Hong Kong.

Poor academics, no proof of caste bias: IIT Bombay report on suicide

PALLAVISMART

ing academic performance" as a ible cause and states the possible cause alio starts mat there is no "specific evidence of direct caste-based discrimina-tion", as alleged by his family, The Indian Express has learnt. The chemical engineering student, Darshan Solanki from Ahmedabad, died by suicide on

February 12, a day after his CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

In fact, the October-December share is the highest among all corresponding quar-ters that had regular interna-tional flight operations since 2015. The assessment excludes CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

SISODIA SENT TO JUDICIAL CUSTODY UNTIL MARCH 20

IN SAME UMESH PAL CASE

2nd encounter by UP cops in week, another murder accused killed

Cops claim accused fired at them; fake he was picked up in morning: family



a panel probing the suicide of a first-year student in IIT Bombay of Prayagraj on Monday. (Below) The accused seen in CCTV footage of the February 24 murder. Express

IN THE second "encounter" in the case in a week police said the man who had fired the first shot at Umesh Pal, a key witness in



al Unseeh Pal, a bay worse and the billing of former IRSP legislator Raju Pal, was gunned down
in Prayagar jaarhy Monday.
Wijay Kimrar Chaudhavy allae
Prayagaraj Addition
Commissioner of Police Aka
pig the encounter which took
place at around 5.30 arn, police
said, adding that he was taked
to
bongstal where he was declared
docknown of the commissioner of Police Aka
prayagaraj Addition
Chaudhay had fired the first sh
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Rabri Devi questioned in 'land-for-jobs'

ief Minister Rabri Devi at her dence in Patna on Monday in

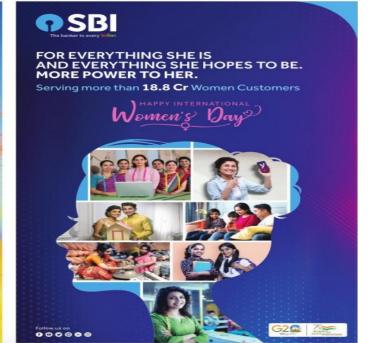


RJD MLA Tej Pratap at Rabri Devi's residence in Patna on Monday. PTI



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India to launch global alliance for big cats, invest \$100 mn

JAY MAZOOMDAAR

NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

INDIA HAS proposed to launch a mega global alliance under its leadership to protect big cats and assured support over five years with guaranteed funding of \$100 million (over Rs 800 crore), according to records reviewed by *The Indian Express*.

The proposed International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) will work towards the protection and conservation of the seven major big cats — tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar and cheetah. Membership to the alliance will be open to 97 "range" countries, which contain the natural habitat of these big cats, as well as other interested nations, in-

ternational organisations, etc. Last month, the Government reached out to potential IBCA member nations with its proposal, it is learnt. According to a proposed timeline, the alliance is expected to be launched next month in a "suitable office complex" in India.

According to sources in the Environment Ministry, the alliance was "inspired by the arrival of cheetahs" last year from Namibia.

"Since we got the cheetahs, we are the only country in the world to have tigers, lions, leopards, snow leopards and cheetahs in the wild. We have all the big cats, except the pumas and jaguars, today. So it is only befitting that India takes the lead to bring together all big cat range



The group will work towards the protection of the seven big cats — tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar and cheetah

countries under an UN-like umbrella," said an official.

The Director General (Forest) in the Environment Ministry and

Member Secretary of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) did not respond to requests for comment from *The Indian Express*.

Records show that the alliance's purpose is to provide a platform for "dissemination of information on benchmarked practices, capacity building, resources repository, research and development, awareness creation", etc., on the protection and conservation of big cats.

Its major activities will include "advocacy, partnership, knowledge e-portal, capacity building, eco-tourism, partnerships between expert groups and finance tapping".

The IBCA's governance structure will comprise a General Assembly consisting of all member countries, a council of at least seven but not more than 15 member countries elected by the General Assembly for a term of 5 years, and a Secretariat. Upon the recommendation of the Council, the General Assembly will appoint the IBCA Secretary General for a specific term.

After the first five years, which will be supported by India's "total grant assistance" of \$100 million, the IBCA is expected to sustain itself through membership fees, and contributions from bilateral and multilateral institutions and the private sector.

However, the proposed move has invited criticism, too.

"Without the political will to do what we know should be done, building yet another platform will not help conservation. The funding commitment (for IBCA) is more than what India can apparently afford to spend for 22 species at the brink of extinction," said a conservationist who is aware of the proposal.

A big cat biologist, who has collaborated earlier with the Government, pointed out that "several key landscapes and species recovery programmes are languishing due to inadequate funding".

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a Government official said: "The funding is not unjustified since the IBCA will offer the vision required to overcome such limitations. This is a conservation alliance unprecedented in scale, purpose and activities."



- With climate change, Deforestation has become a critically sensitive issue globally in recent years, making imperative for Forest Certification to regulate the entry and sale of forest-based products.
- At the Glasgow climate meeting in 2021, more than 100 countries made a pledge to stop, and start reversing, deforestation by 2030.
- जलवायु परिवर्तन के साथ, वनों की कटाई हाल के वर्षों में विश्व स्तर पर एक गंभीर रूप से संवेदनशील मुद्दा बन गया है, जिससे वन-आधारित उत्पादों के प्रवेश और बिक्री को विनियमित करने के लिए वन प्रमाणन अनिवार्य हो गया है।
- 2021 में ग्लासगो जलवायु बैठक में, 100 से अधिक देशों ने 2030 तक वनों की कटाई को रोकने और उलटना शुरू करने का संकल्प लिया।

What is Forest Certification?

Need

- Forests absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide that is emitted in various economic activities
- Avoid consumption of any product that might be the result of deforestation
- Regulate the entry and sale of forestbased products

ज़रूरत

- वन बड़ी मात्रा में कार्बन डाइऑक्साइड को अवशोषित करते हैं जो विभिन्न आर्थिक गतिविधियों में उत्सर्जित होती है
- वनों की कटाई का परिणाम हो सकता है
 िक किसी भी उत्पाद की खपत से बचें
- वन आधारित उत्पादों के प्रवेश और बिक्री को विनियमित करें

Forest Certification

- or forest monitoring, tracing and labelling
- against a series of agreed standards.
- There are two major international standards for sustainable management
- One has been developed by Forest Stewardship Council (FSC);
- The other by Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certifications (PEFC).

वन प्रमाणन

- या वन निगरानी, अनुरेखण और लेबलिंग
- सहमत मानकों की एक श्रृंखला के खिलाफ।
- स्थायी प्रबंधन के लिए दो प्रमुख अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानक हैं
- वन स्टीवर्डशिप काउंसिल (एफएससी) द्वारा विकसित किया गया है;
- दूसरा प्रोग्राम फॉर एंडोर्समेंट ऑफ फॉरेस्ट सर्टिफिकेशन (पीईएफसी) द्वारा।

Two Types of Certifications

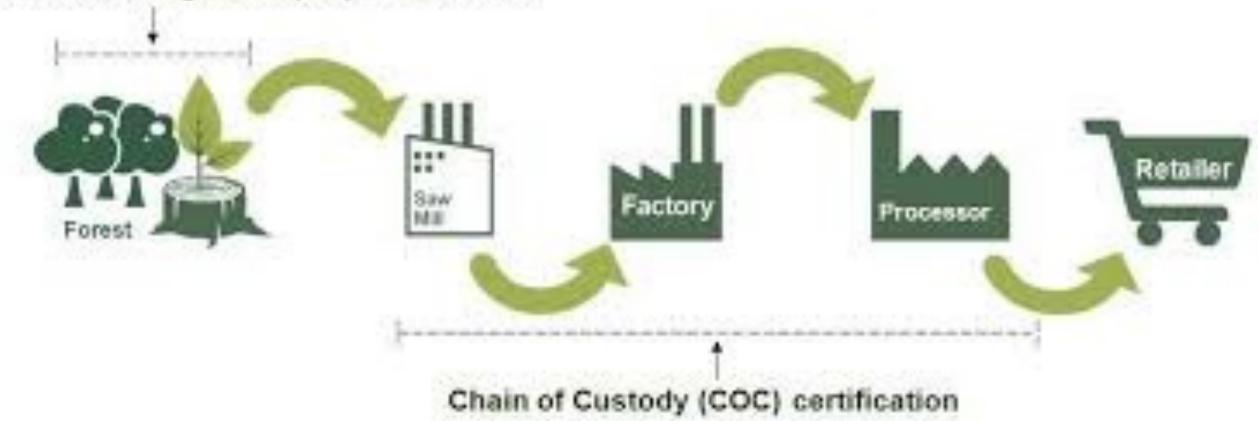
Forest management (FM) and Chain of Custody (CoC).

• CoC certification is meant to guarantee the traceability of a forest product like timber throughout the supply chain from origin to market.

फ़ॉरेस्ट मैनेजमेंट (FM) और चेन ऑफ़ कस्टडी (CoC)।

 सीओसी प्रमाणन का मतलब मूल से लेकर बाजार तक पूरी आपूर्ति श्रृंखला में लकड़ी जैसे वन उत्पाद की ट्रेसबिलिटी की गारंटी देना है।

Forest Management (FM) certification



Forest Certification in India

- The forest certification industry has been operating in India for the last 15 years.
- Currently, forests in only Uttar Pradesh are certified.
- Forest certification in India is still at an early stage and therefore the nation has not been able to make use of the benefits of forest certification.

- वन प्रमाणन उद्योग भारत में पिछले 15 वर्षों से काम कर रहा है।
- वर्तमान में केवल उत्तर प्रदेश में वन प्रमाणित हैं।
- भारत में वन प्रमाणन अभी भी प्रारंभिक चरण में है और इसलिए देश वन प्रमाणन के लाभों का उपयोग करने में सक्षम नहीं हो पाया है।

What are India Specific Standards?

- India allows the export of only processed wood, not timber.
- India's forests contribute just about five million cubic metres of wood every year.
- India's wood import bill is Rs 50,000-60,000 crore per year.
- PEFC already has certification for TOF and in 2022, FSC came up with India-specific standards that included certification for ToF.

- भारत केवल प्रसंस्कृत लकड़ी के निर्यात की अनुमित देता है, लकड़ी की नहीं।
- भारत के वन हर साल लगभग 50 लाख क्यूबिक मीटर लकड़ी का योगदान करते हैं।
- भारत का लकड़ी आयात बिल प्रति वर्ष
 50,000-60,000 करोड़ रुपये है।
 - PEFC के पास पहले से ही TOF के लिए प्रमाणन है और 2022 में, FSC भारत- विशिष्ट मानकों के साथ आया जिसमें ToF के लिए प्रमाणन शामिल था।

Daily Current Affairs

Social Protection for Children: ILO-UNICEF

- Recently, ILO (International Labour Organization) and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) has released a report titled- "More than a billion reasons: The urgent need to build universal social protection for children", which states that just 1 in 4 children are shielded by social protection, leaving others exposed to poverty, exclusion and multidimensional deprivations.
- हाल ही में, ILO (अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन) और UNICEF (संयुक्त राष्ट्र बाल कोष) ने एक रिपोर्ट जारी की है जिसका शीर्षक है- "एक अरब से अधिक कारण: बच्चों के लिए सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा बनाने की तत्काल आवश्यकता", जिसमें कहा गया है कि 4 में से सिर्फ 1 बच्चा सामाजिक सुरक्षा द्वारा परिरक्षित, दूसरों को गरीबी, बहिष्करण और बहुआयामी अभावों के संपर्क में छोड़ते हुए।

What is the Need for Social Protection?

- world free from poverty.
- to help the world's most vulnerable children fulfill their potential.
- helps increase access to food, nutrition, education and healthcare.
- prevent child labour and child marriage
- reduce stress and even domestic violence
- mitigate the stigma and exclusion so many children living in poverty experience

- दुनिया गरीबी से मुक्त।
- दुनिया के सबसे कमजोर बच्चों को उनकी क्षमता को पूरा करने में मदद करने के लिए।
- भोजन, पोषण, शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य सेवा तक पहुंच बढ़ाने में मदद करता है।
- बाल श्रम और बाल विवाह को रोकें
- तनाव और यहां तक कि घरेलू हिंसा को कम करें
- कलंक और बहिष्करण को कम करने के लिए गरीबी में रहने वाले बहुत से बच्चे अनुभव करते हैं

What are the Findings of the Report?

Global Scenario

- 1.77 billion children aged 0-18 years lack access to a child or family cash benefit, a fundamental pillar of a social protection system.
- Children are twice as likely to live in extreme poverty as adults.
- Approximately 800 million children are subsisting below the poverty line of USD 3.20 a day

वैश्विक परिदृश्य

- 0-18 वर्ष की आयु के 1.77 अरब बच्चों के पास बच्चे या परिवार के लिए नकद लाभ नहीं है, जो सामाजिक सुरक्षा प्रणाली का एक मूलभूत स्तंभ है।
- वयस्कों की तुलना में बच्चों के अत्यधिक गरीबी में रहने की संभावना दोगुनी है।
- लगभग 800 मिलियन बच्चे प्रतिदिन 3.20 अमरीकी डालर की गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवन यापन कर रहे हैं

Social Protection Coverage

Child and family social protection coverage rates fell or stagnated in every region in the world between 2016 and 2020, leaving no country on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of achieving substantial social protection coverage by 2030.

सामाजिक सुरक्षा कवरेज

• 2016 और 2020 के बीच दुनिया के हर क्षेत्र में बाल और परिवार की सामाजिक सुरक्षा कवरेज दर गिर गई या स्थिर हो गई, जिससे कोई भी देश 2030 तक पर्याप्त सामाजिक सुरक्षा कवरेज प्राप्त करने के सतत विकास लक्ष्यों (एसडीजी) को प्राप्त करने के लिए ट्रैक पर नहीं रहा।

Risk

- Multiple crises are likely to push more children into poverty, necessitating an immediate increase in social protection measures.
- The impacts of lack of social protection for children are both immediate and lifelong, heightening rights violations such as child labour and child marriage
- Has inevitable adverse and long-term implications for communities.

- बहुसंख्यक संकट अधिक बच्चों को गरीबी में धकेलने की संभावना है, जिससे सामाजिक सुरक्षा उपायों में तत्काल वृद्धि की आवश्यकता होगी।
- बच्चों के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा की कमी के प्रभाव तत्काल और आजीवन दोनों हैं, बाल श्रम और बाल विवाह जैसे अधिकारों का उल्लंघन बढ़ रहा है
- समुदायों के लिए अपिरहार्य प्रतिकूल और दीर्घकालिक प्रभाव हैं।

Significance of Social Protection

- One billion children live in multidimensional poverty without access to education, health, housing, nutrition, sanitation or water.
- The Covid-19 pandemic highlighted that social protection is a critical response in times of crisis.
- Nearly every government in the world either rapidly adapted existing schemes or introduced new social protection programmes to support children and families.

- एक अरब बच्चे शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, आवास, पोषण, स्वच्छता या पानी तक पहुंच के बिना बहुआयामी गरीबी में रहते हैं।
- कोविड-19 महामारी ने इस बात पर प्रकाश डाला कि संकट के समय में सामाजिक सुरक्षा एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रतिक्रिया है।
- दुनिया की लगभग हर सरकार ने या तो मौजूदा योजनाओं को तेजी से अपनाया या बच्चों और परिवारों को सहारा देने के लिए नए सामाजिक सुरक्षा कार्यक्रम शुरू किए।

- 31 states in India had implemented the national 'PM CARES for Children' scheme, a package of measures for 10,793 full orphans and 151,322 half-orphans.
- So far, 4,302 children have received support from the scheme.

- भारत के 31 राज्यों ने 10,793 पूर्ण अनाथों
 और 151,322 अर्ध-अनाथों के लिए
 राष्ट्रीय 'पीएम केयर फॉर चिल्ड्रन' योजना
 लागू की थी।
- अभी तक 4,302 बच्चों को योजना से सहायता मिल चुकी है।

What are the Recommendations?

- Take action towards universal social protection for all children
- To provide child benefits through national social protection systems
- Sustainable financing for schemes by mobilizing domestic resources

- सभी बच्चों के लिए सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा की दिशा में कार्रवाई करें
- राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सुरक्षा प्रणालियों के माध्यम से बाल लाभ प्रदान करना
- घरेलू संसाधनों को जुटाकर योजनाओं के लिए सतत वित्तपोषण

Daily Current Affairs

Great Seahorse Migration

- A study indicated that extensive fishing off the Coromandel coast could be forcing the great seahorse to migrate towards Odisha.
- Though, fishing is less intense off the Odisha coastline but still it may not be the new comfort zone for the Seahorse due to lack of suitable habitat.
- एक अध्ययन ने संकेत दिया कि कोरोमंडल तट पर व्यापक मछली पकड़ने से महान समुद्री घोड़े को ओडिशा की ओर पलायन करने के लिए मजबूर किया जा सकता है।
- हालांकि, ओडिशा तट रेखा से मछली पकड़ने की तीव्रता कम है, लेकिन उपयुक्त आवास की कमी के कारण यह सीहोर के लिए नया आराम क्षेत्र नहीं हो सकता है।

What are the Key Facts about Seahorse?

- Sea horses are tiny fish that are named for the shape of their head
- There are 46 species of seahorses reported worldwide.
- India house 9 out of 12 species found in the Indo-Pacific.
- Found in shallow coastal waters in latitudes from about 52° N to 45°S.
- Seahorse populations in India are
 distributed across diverse ecosystems
 such as seagrass, mangroves, macroalgal
 beds, and coral reefs.

- समुद्री घोड़े छोटी मछलियाँ होती हैं जिनका नाम उनके सिर के आकार के कारण रखा जाता है
- दुनिया भर में समुद्री घोड़ों की 46 प्रजातियां बताई गई हैं।
- इंडो-पैसिफिक में पाई जाने वाली 12 में से 9 प्रजातियां भारत में पाई जाती हैं।
- लगभग 52° उत्तर से 45° दक्षिण अक्षांशों में उथले तटीय जल में पाया जाता है।
- भारत में सीहॉर्स आबादी विविध पारिस्थितिक तंत्रों जैसे समुद्री घास, मैंग्रोव, मैक्रोगल बेड और प्रवाल भित्तियों में वितरित की जाती है।

The 3-inch sea horse found at Boisar beach

DESTRUCTION OF CORAL REEFS TO BLAME?

Sea horses are mainly found in shallow tropical and temperate salt waters throughout the world

They live in sheltered areas like seagrass beds, estuaries, coral reefs, and mangroves

It is the male sea horse that carries eggs until the babies emerge fully developed. While mating, the female sea horse deposits eggs in the pouch of the male on the front side of the tail

Sea horses are used in Chinese medicine



- These 9 species are distributed along the coasts of eight States and five Union Territories from Gujarat to Odisha, apart from Lakshadweep and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- They migrate by rafting, clinging to floating substrata
- The male gives birth to child as the female uses an ovipositor

Conservation Status

- IUCN status-Vulnerable
- CITES: Appendix II

- इन 9 प्रजातियों को लक्षद्वीप और अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह के अलावा गुजरात से ओडिशा तक आठ राज्यों और पांच केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों के तटों पर वितरित किया जाता है।
- वे फ्लोटिंग सब्सट्रेट से चिपके हुए राफ्टिंग से पलायन करते हैं
- नर बच्चे को जन्म देता है क्योंकि मादा ओविपोसिटर का उपयोग करती है संरक्षण की स्थिति
- आईयूसीएन स्थिति-कमजोर
- सीआईटीईएस: परिशिष्ट II



- The population of the Great seahorse is declining due to its Overexploitation for
- Traditional Chinese medicines
- Ornamental fish
- General destructive fishing
- Fisheries bycatch.
- Around 13 million individuals are caught per year on Coromandel coast.

• ग्रेट सीहॉर्स की आबादी इसके अतिदोहन के कारण घट रही है

- पारंपरिक चीनी दवाएं
- सजावटी मछली
- सामान्य विनाशकारी मछली पकड़ना
- मत्स्य पालन।

 कोरोमंडल तट पर प्रति वर्ष लगभग 13 मिलियन व्यक्ति पकड़े जाते हैं।

What are the Challenges with Migration?

Lack of Suitable Habitats

 Odisha coast does not have coral reefs or seagrass meadows to make a suitable habitat, except within the Chilika region.

उपयुक्त आवासों का अभाव

 चिल्का क्षेत्र को छोड़कर, ओडिशा तट में एक उपयुक्त निवास स्थान बनाने के लिए प्रवाल भित्तियाँ या समुद्री घास के मैदान नहीं हैं।

Lack of Conservation Measures

संरक्षण उपायों का अभाव



- 'Cyber Warrior' Teams and Help Desks to Combat Rising Cybercrime in Visakhapatnam.
- During the year 2022, visakhapatnam had reported as many as 610 cybercrime cases, as against 316 during the year 2021, which is almost a 93% increase.
- To combat the rise in cybercrime, all police stations in the city will soon have exclusive 'cyber warriors' teams to handle such cases.
- Additionally, **cybercrime help desks** will be set up in all police stations within the next two months.

- विशाखापत्तनम में बढ़ते साइबर अपराध का मुकाबला करने के लिए 'साइबर योद्धा' टीम और सहायता डेस्क।
- वर्ष 2022 के दौरान, विशाखापत्तनम ने 610 साइबर अपराध के मामले दर्ज किए थे, जबकि वर्ष 2021 के दौरान 316 थे, जो लगभग 93% की वृद्धि है।
- साइबर अपराध में वृद्धि का मुकाबला करने के लिए, शहर के सभी पुलिस थानों में जल्द ही ऐसे मामलों को संभालने के लिए विशेष 'साइबर योद्धा' दल होंगे।
- इसके अतिरिक्त, अगले दो महीनों के भीतर सभी पुलिस थानों में साइबर क्राइम हेल्प डेस्क स्थापित किए जाएंगे।

What are Cyber Warriors?

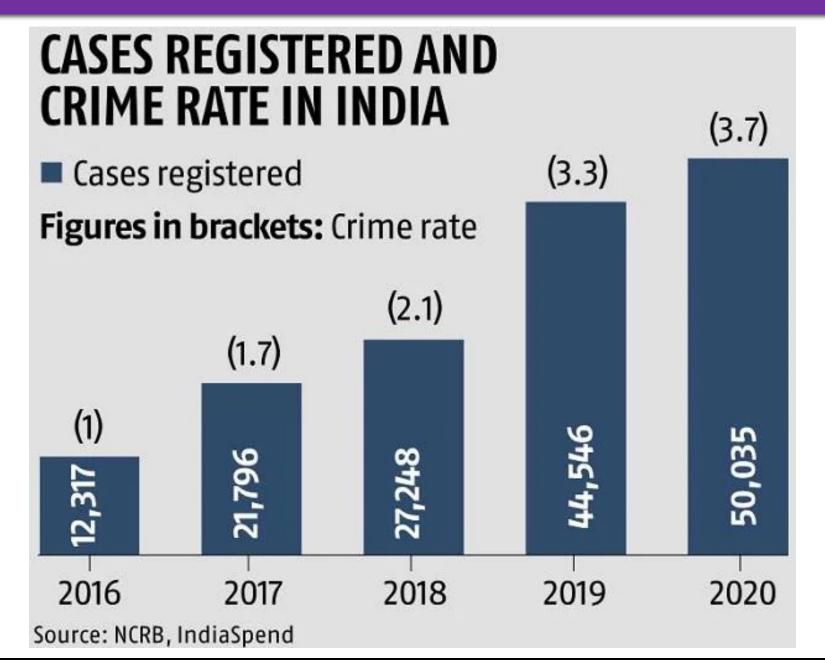
- As part of the initiative, around **70 police personnel,** including around 20 subinspectors and several ASIs will be undergoing virtual and offline training on various aspects of cybercrime.
- The cyber warriors team will be headed by a Sub-Inspector and staff.
- The personnel will be trained on various aspects of cybercrime cases being reported, including the modus operandi of cyber fraudsters.

- पहल के हिस्से के रूप में, लगभग 70 पुलिस कर्मियों, जिनमें लगभग 20 उप-निरीक्षक और कई एएसआई शामिल हैं, साइबर अपराध के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर आभासी और ऑफ़लाइन प्रशिक्षण से गुजरेंगे।
- साइबर योद्धा टीम का नेतृत्व एक सब-इंस्पेक्टर
 और कर्मचारी करेंगे।
- कर्मियों को रिपोर्ट किए जा रहे साइबर अपराध मामलों के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर प्रशिक्षित किया जाएगा, जिसमें साइबर धोखाधड़ी करने वालों की कार्यप्रणाली भी शामिल है।

- The police are planning to introduce
 the cyber sentinel concept in which at least
 one person in each colony or area will be
 trained with basic skills to handle
 cybercrime and create awareness among
 people.
- Personnel will also be trained in technical skills to launch immediate communication with data operators and bank authorities after a cybercrime is committed.
- The aim is to freeze accounts or stop money transfers and retrieve call data records to prevent money from being transferred to fraudsters.

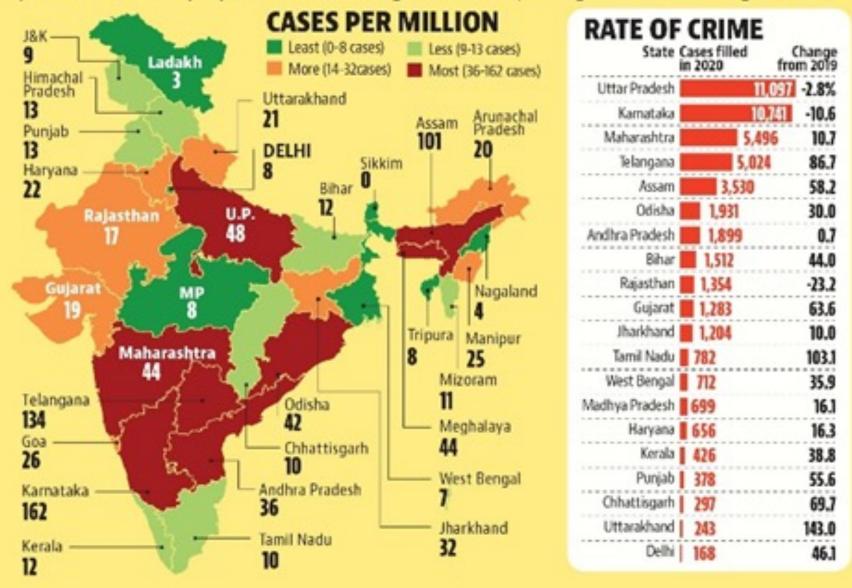
- पुलिस साइबर सेंटिनल अवधारणा शुरू करने की योजना बना रही है, जिसमें प्रत्येक कॉलोनी या क्षेत्र में कम से कम एक व्यक्ति को साइबर अपराध से निपटने और लोगों में जागरूकता पैदा करने के लिए बुनियादी कौशल के साथ प्रशिक्षित किया जाएगा।
- साइबर अपराध होने के बाद डेटा ऑपरेटरों और बैंक अधिकारियों के साथ तत्काल संचार शुरू करने के लिए कर्मियों को तकनीकी कौशल में भी प्रशिक्षित किया जाएगा।
- इसका उद्देश्य खातों को फ्रीज करना या धन हस्तांतरण को रोकना और कॉल डेटा रिकॉर्ड को पुनः प्राप्त करना है ताकि धोखेबाजों को धन हस्तांतरित होने से रोका जा सके।

Cybercrime in India: (NCRB Report)



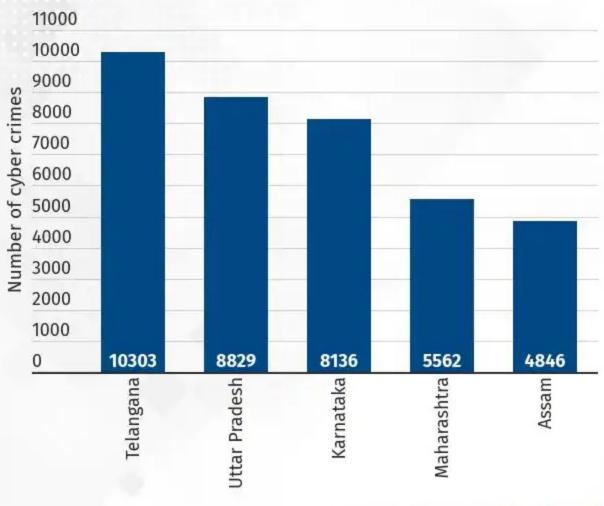
Vulnerable digital space

Number of cases filed last year under sections dealing with cyber crime rose to 50,035 from 44,735 a year before as more people moved to working from home, spending more time with digital tools



STATES WHICH RECORDED

THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CYBER CRIMES IN 2021



Source: National Crime Records Bureau









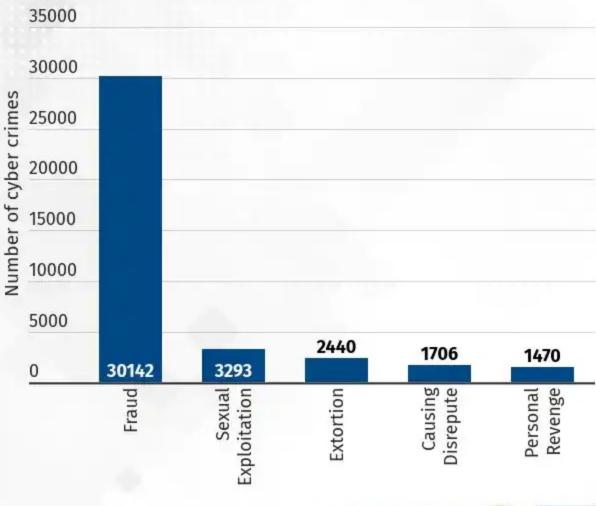






TOP 5 MOTIVES FOR

COMMITTING CYBER CRIMES IN 2021











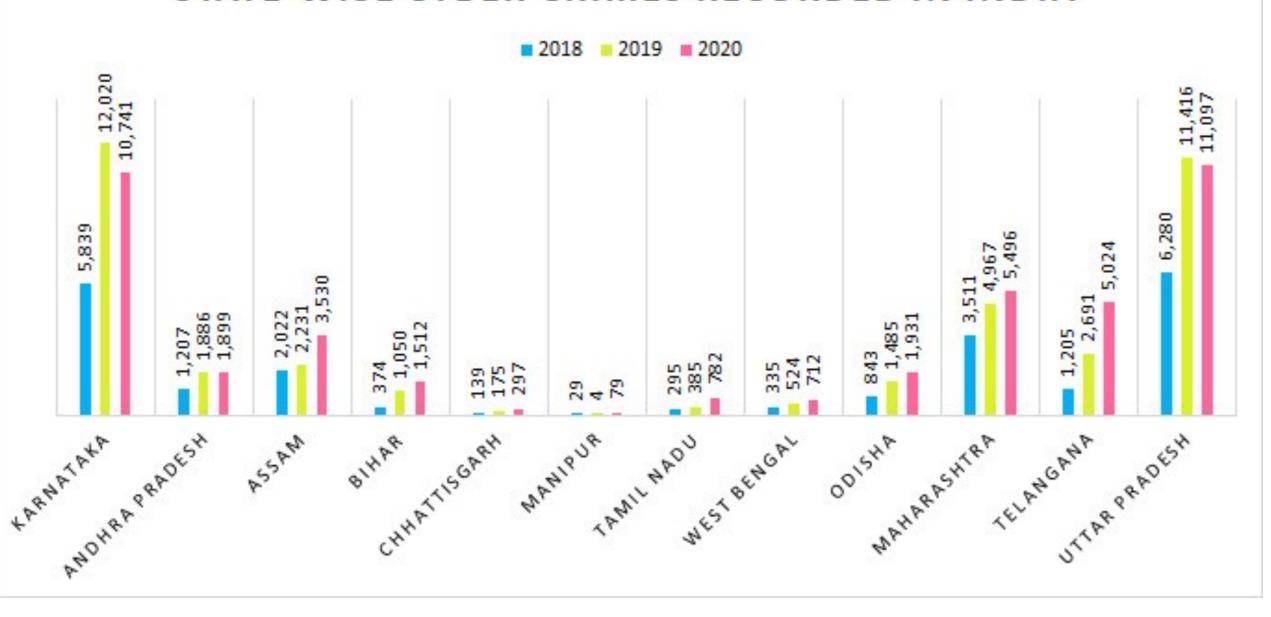








STATE-WISE CYBER CRIMES RECORDED IN INDIA



Challenges of Cybercrime

- Lack of Awareness
- Low Cybersecurity Awareness
- Rapidly Evolving Cyber
 Threat Landscape
- Limited Cybersecurity
 Infrastructure
- Increasing Use of Technology
- Lack of Cybercrime Laws

- जागरूकता की कमी
- कम साइबर सुरक्षा जागरूकता
- तेजी से विकसित हो रहा साइबर खतरा परिदृश्य
- सीमित साइबर सुरक्षा अवसंरचना
- प्रौद्योगिकी का बढ़ता उपयोग
- साइबर अपराध कानूनों का अभाव

Need for controlling cyber crimes in India

- Increasing Digitalization
- Economic Impact
- National Security
- Personal Privacy
- Cyber Security Jobs
- Digital India Initiative

- डिजिटलीकरण में वृद्धि
- आर्थिक प्रभाव
- राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा
- व्यक्तिगत गोपनीयता
- साइबर सुरक्षा नौकरियां
- डिजिटल इंडिया पहल

Laws governing Cybercrime in India

- Information Technology Act,
 2000
- Indian Penal Code (IPC)
- Aadhaar Act, 2016
- Copyright Act, 1957
- Right to Information Act, 2005
- Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002

- सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी अधिनियम, 2000
- भारतीय दंड संहिता (आईपीसी)
- आधार अधिनियम, 2016
- कॉपीराइट अधिनियम, 1957
- सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम,
 2005
- धन शोधन निवारण अधिनियम, 2002

Daily Current Affairs

Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman 2023

- Recently, the Ministry of Jal Shakti has organized the "Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman 2023", to honor the women champions of the rural water and sanitation sector.
- The event also saw the launch of Jal Shakti Abhiyan Catch the Rain 2023.
- हाल ही में, जल शक्ति मंत्रालय ने ग्रामीण जल और स्वच्छता क्षेत्र की महिला चैंपियनों को सम्मानित करने के लिए "स्वच्छ सुजल शक्ति सम्मान 2023" का आयोजन किया है।
- इस कार्यक्रम में जल शक्ति अभियान कैच द रेन 2023 का शुभारंभ भी देखा गया।

What are the Key Highlights?

- This event was organized in the run up to the International Women's Day (8th March)
- Acknowledge the leadership and contribution of women at the grass-root level in the journey towards making a 'Swachh Sujal Bharat'.
- 36 women WASH Champions were conferred with the 'Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman 2023'.

- यह कार्यक्रम अंतर्राष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस (8 मार्च) के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित किया गया था।
- 'स्वच्छ सुजल भारत' बनाने की यात्रा में जमीनी स्तर पर महिलाओं के नेतृत्व और योगदान को स्वीकार करें।
- 36 महिला वॉश चैंपियंस को 'स्वच्छ सुजल शक्ति सम्मान 2023' से सम्मानित किया गया।

- They were felicitated for their exceptional and exemplary work at the grassroots level in the implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin (SBM-G), Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain (JSA-CTR).
- उन्हें स्वच्छ भारत मिशन ग्रामीण (SBM-G), जल जीवन मिशन (JJM), जल शक्ति अभियान: कैच द रेन (JSA-CTR) के कार्यान्वयन में जमीनी स्तर पर उनके असाधारण और अनुकरणीय कार्य के लिए सम्मानित किया गया।

What are the Key Points of Catch the Rain 2023?

- The President of India launched 'Catch the Rain-2023' as part of efforts to turn conservation of water into a mass campaign in the run-up to the monsoon season.
- Theme 2023: Source Sustainability for Drinking Water.
- The campaign is implemented by the National Water Mission (NWM),
 Ministry of Jal Shakti.

- भारत के राष्ट्रपित ने मानसून के मौसम में पानी के संरक्षण को एक जन अभियान में बदलने के प्रयासों के तहत 'कैच द रेन-2023' लॉन्च किया।
- थीम 2023: पेयजल के लिए स्रोत स्थिरता।
- अभियान राष्ट्रीय जल मिशन (NWM), जल शक्ति मंत्रालय द्वारा कार्यान्वित किया जाता है।

What are the Efforts for Water Conservation?

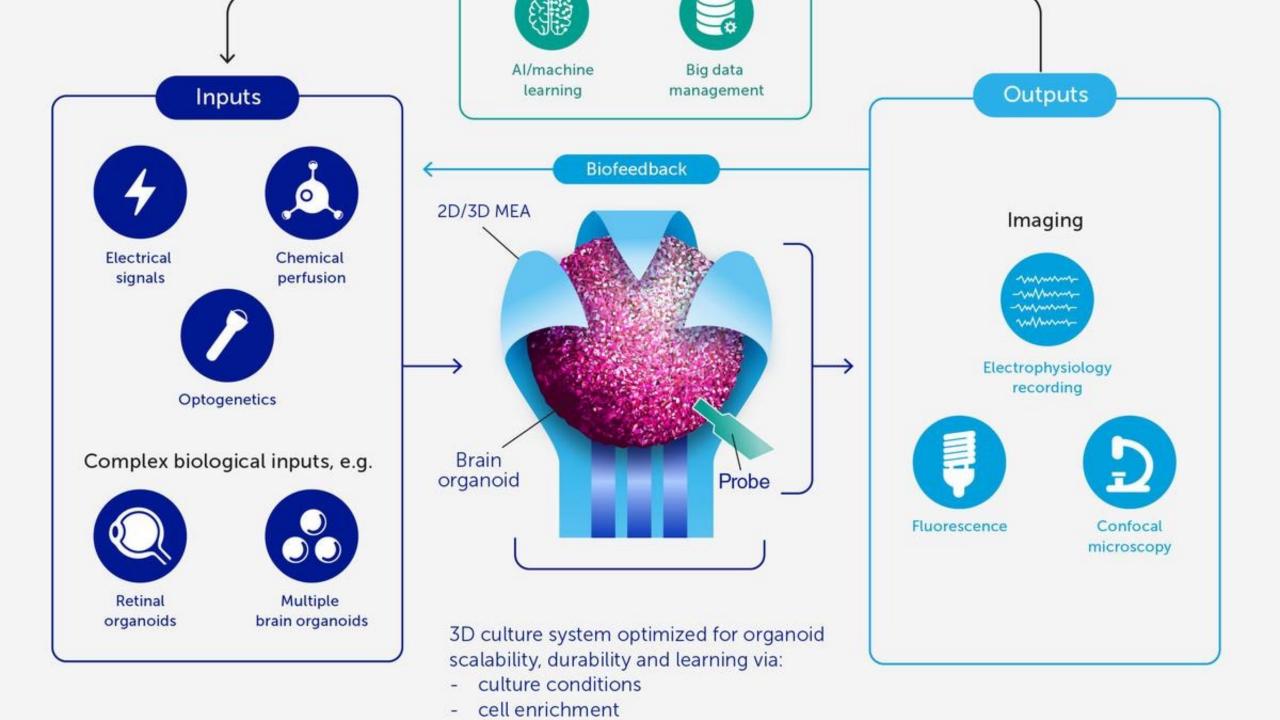
- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.
- Jal Kranti Abhiyan.
- NITI Aayog's Composite Water Management Index.
- Atal Bhujal Yojana
- National Water Awards

- महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम।
- जल क्रांति अभियान।
- नीति आयोग का समग्र जल प्रबंधन सूचकांक।
- अटल भुजल योजना
- राष्ट्रीय जल पुरस्कार



- Recently scientists have taken initial steps to create an 'organoid intelligence' which aims to create "biocomputers".
- "Organoid intelligence" like Artificial intelligence is an area of study to create independent decision-making units using organoids.
- Brain organoids are **3D** cultures of brain tissue prepared in the lab using human stem cells. These capture many structural and functional features of a developing human brain.
- The scientists ultimately aim to create "biocomputers": which are brain cultures grown in the lab and coupled to real-world sensors and input/output devices.

- हाल ही में वैज्ञानिकों ने एक 'ऑर्गनॉइड इंटेलिजेंस' बनाने के लिए प्रारंभिक कदम उठाए हैं जिसका उद्देश्य "बायोकंप्यूटर" बनाना है।
- आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस की तरह "ऑर्गनॉइड इंटेलिजेंस" ऑर्गनाइड्स का उपयोग करके स्वतंत्र निर्णय लेने वाली इकाइयां बनाने के लिए अध्ययन का एक क्षेत्र है।
- ब्रेन ऑर्गेनॉइड मानव स्टेम सेल का उपयोग करके प्रयोगशाला में तैयार किए गए मस्तिष्क के ऊतकों के 3डी कल्चर हैं। ये विकासशील मानव मस्तिष्क की कई संरचनात्मक और कार्यात्मक विशेषताओं को कैप्चर करते हैं।
- वैज्ञानिक अंततः "बायोकंप्यूटर" बनाने का लक्ष्य रखते हैं: जो प्रयोगशाला में विकसित मस्तिष्क संस्कृतियां हैं और वास्तिवक दुनिया के सेंसर और इनपुट/आउटपुट उपकरणों से जुड़ी हैं।



Uses

- These biocomputers like human brains can be used for **complex information processing.**
- These organoids can reveal
 the biological basis of human
 cognition, learning, and memory.
- They can help in drug development and in decoding the pathology of degenerative diseases such as Parkinson's disease and microcephaly.

- मानव मस्तिष्क की तरह इन बायोकंप्यूटरों का उपयोग जटिल सूचना प्रसंस्करण के लिए किया जा सकता है।
- ये ऑर्गेनॉइड मानव अनुभूति, सीखने और स्मृति के जैविक आधार को प्रकट कर सकते हैं।
- वे दवा के विकास और पार्किंसंस रोग और माइक्रोसेफली जैसे अपक्षयी रोगों की विकृति को डिकोड करने में मदद कर सकते हैं।

The Hindu Vocabulary

Constrained : विवश किया हुआ: To limit their development or force them to behave in a particular way.



Synonyms: Contrived, Restrained,

Repressed

Antonyms: Relaxed

Example Sentence: I felt free to speak to

her without constraint.

Communique(Noun): सरकारी परिपत्र: An official statement, especially from a government, a political group, etc.



Synonyms: Announcement, Bulletin

Example Sentence: The company released a communique to the news outlet that explained why the former CEO resigned.

Ironed out: समस्या हल की: To resolve or work out a solution to.

Synonyms: Unravel, Unscramble,

Untangle

Example Sentence: Hopefully they'll iron out a problem that seems less prolific in other branches.



Entrenched: मजबूत स्थिति बनाना: To place in a position of strength; establish firmly or solidly



Synonyms: Ingrained, Fixed

Example Sentence:Our soldiers have entrenched themselves behind the battle lines.

Perceived(Verb): देखना/समझना: To become aware of (something) through the senses, esp. the sight; recognize or observe



Antonyms: Avoid, Dodge

Example Sentence: A key task is to get pupils to perceive for themselves the relationship between success and effort.





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- 1. What is the tenure of Chief Election

 Commissioner (CEC) and Election

 Commissioners (ECs) under the current legal
 framework of the country?
- a) A fixed term of 5 years or 60 years of age, whichever is earlier
- b) A fixed term of 6 years or 65 years of age, whichever is earlier
- c) A fixed term of 5 years or 65 years of age, whichever is earlier
- d) No fixed term as the President fixes his term

1. देश के मौजूदा कानूनी ढांचे के तहत मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त (सीईसी) और चुनाव आयुक्तों (ईसी) का कार्यकाल क्या है?

- a) 5 वर्ष या 60 वर्ष की आयु, जो भी पहले हो, की निश्चित अवधि
- b) 6 वर्ष या 65 वर्ष की आयु, जो भी पहले हो, की निश्चित अवधि
- c) 5 वर्ष या 65 वर्ष की आयु, जो भी पहले हो, की निश्चित अवधि
- d) कोई निश्चित कार्यकाल नहीं है क्योंकि राष्ट्रपति अपना कार्यकाल तय करता है

Answer – B

• Section 4(1) of the Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991 requires that Chief Election Commissioners and Election Commissioners should separately have a period of six years in office.

• Supreme Court recently held that the appointment of an Election Commissioner for a tenure less than 6 years is in "clear breach" of law. "The philosophy behind giving a reasonably long stint to the appointee to the post of Election Commissioner or the Chief Election Commissioner is that it would enable the officer to have enough time to gear himself to the needs of the office and to be able to assert his independence", said SC.

2. Consider following statements regarding seahorses:

2. समुद्री घोड़ों के संबंध में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार करें:

- 1. Seahorse is nothing but a type of small marine fish.
- 2. They are mainly found in shallow tropical and temperate salt water throughout the world, from about 45°S to 45°N.
- 3. They live in sheltered areas such as seagrass beds, estuaries, coral reefs, and mangroves.

- 1. सीहोर और कुछ नहीं बल्कि एक प्रकार की छोटी समुद्री मछली है।
- 2. वे मुख्य रूप से दुनिया भर में उथले उष्णकटिबंधीय और समशीतोष्ण खारे पानी में पाए जाते हैं, लगभग 45°S से 45°N तक।
- 3. वे आश्रय वाले क्षेत्रों में रहते हैं जैसे समुद्री घास के बिस्तर, ज्वारनदमुख, प्रवाल भित्तियाँ और मैंग्रोव।

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 & 2 only
- b) 2 & 3 only
- c) 1 & 3 only
- d) 1, 2 & 3

उपरोक्त कथनों में से कौन से सही हैं?

- a) 1 और 2 केवल
- b) 2 और 3 केवल
- c) केवल 1 और 3
- d) 1, 2 और 3

Answer – D

• Seahorse is any of 46 species of small marine fish in the genus Hippocampus and family Syngnathidae. They are mainly found in shallow tropical and temperate salt water throughout the world, from about 45°S to 45°N. They live in sheltered areas such as seagrass beds, estuaries, coral reefs, and mangroves.

• The coastal ecosystems of India house 9 out of 12 species found in the Indo-Pacific, one of the hotspots of seahorse populations. These 9 species are distributed along the coasts of eight States and five Union Territories from Gujarat to Odisha, apart from Lakshadweep and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

3. Hippocampus kelloggi is a species of

3. हिप्पोकैम्पस केलॉगी किसकी प्रजाति है

- a) Nocturnal frog
- b) African Hippopotamus
- c) Great seahorse
- d) Migratory bird

- a) निशाचर मेंढक
- b) अफ्रीकी दरियाई घोड़ा
- c) महान समुद्री घोड़ा
- d) प्रवासी पक्षी

Answer – C

- Extensive fishing off the Coromandel coast could be forcing the great seahorse to migrate laboriously toward Odisha. Fishing is less intense in the Bay of Bengal off the Odisha coastline.
- But the shallow coastal ecosystem of the eastern Indian State may not be the new comfort zone for the fish with a horse-like head, a study published in the latest issue of the Journal of Threatened Taxa said.
- The study was based on a specimen of a juvenile great seahorse, or Hippocampus kelloggi.

• There are 46 species of seahorses reported worldwide. The population of the great seahorse, which is categorised in IUCN red list as 'vulnerable', is declining due to its overexploitation for traditional Chinese medicines and as ornamental fish, combined with general destructive fishing and fisheries bycatch, the study said.

4. Which of the following is the objective of "SWAYATT Initiative"?

- a) It aims to promote Start ups Women and Youth
 Advantage through e Transactions on Government e
 Marketplace (GeM)
- b) It aims to establish a green field city on the Great Nicobar Island.
- c) It aims to provide legally guaranteed minimum support price (MSP) for 22 crops that should be set at a profit margin of 50 percent over the comprehensive cost of production.
- d) It aims at 100% rural electrification with reliable, adequate & quality electricity supply and also to provide access to electricity to villages/habitations & households.

4. निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा "स्वियत पहल" का उद्देश्य है?

- a) इसका उद्देश्य सरकारी ई मार्केटप्लेस (GeM) पर ई-लेनदेन के माध्यम से स्टार्ट अप महिला और युवा लाभ को बढ़ावा देना है।
- b) इसका उद्देश्य ग्रेट निकोबार द्वीप पर एक ग्रीन फील्ड सिटी स्थापित करना है।
- c) इसका उद्देश्य 22 फसलों के लिए कानूनी रूप से गारंटीकृत न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) प्रदान करना है जिसे उत्पादन की व्यापक लागत पर 50 प्रतिशत के लाभ मार्जिन पर निर्धारित किया जाना चाहिए।
- d) इसका उद्देश्य विश्वसनीय, पर्याप्त और गुणवत्तापूर्ण बिजली आपूर्ति के साथ 100% ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण करना है और साथ ही गांवों/बस्तियों और घरों में बिजली की पहुंच प्रदान करना है।

Answer - A

• SWAYATT Initiative aims to promote start-ups, women and youth advantage through e-Transactions on Government e-Marketplace (GeM).